

ABOUT YOU

Please provide your name as it will appear on the ballot: Kansen Chu

What office are you seeking? San Jose City Council District 4

Are you an incumbent in this office? No

Do you now or have you ever held elected office(s)? *If so, please list title(s), jurisdiction(s), and years in each office:* Yes. 8 years on Berryessa School Board, 8 years on San Jose City Council, 6 years on State Assembly

Where's your hometown? Taipei, Taiwan

What is your current city of residence? San Jose

What is your highest level of education? Master of Science

What is your current primary vocation/occupation? Education advisor

Do you have an arts background of any kind? *If so, please explain.* I chaired the State Assembly Standing committee on Arts, Sports and Tourism

ABOUT YOUR CAMPAIGN

Please share your candidate statement as it will appear in voting materials. (approx. 200 words)

As an immigrant from Taiwan, I came to the United States for graduate school in Engineering and became an engineer for IBM before my wife Daisy and I started a restaurant. I am honored and humbled to have been elected to the California State Assembly, San Jose City Council, and Berryessa School District Board.

Daisy and I have lived in San Jose for 44 years. Our three generation family is proud to called San Jose home! That is why I have decided to come back to my root to run for the City Council.

I will work to attract more businesses to San Jose so we can garner more sales tax and business to business tax to improve city services such as public safety, parks, streets, libraries, child care centers, senior services, cleaner air, code enforcement and addressing our growing homelessness problem.

During my years as a public servant, I have always respectfully listened to neighborhood voices on their quality of lives issues before I make my decisions. I will fight to protect the North San Jose Jobs Plan, to bring thousands of jobs to San Jose as we increase the housing inventory in North San Jose. The Job Plan will also reduce the daily commute times for many San Jose residents.

I respectfully ask for your vote. Thank you. www.kansenchu.com

What is your campaign budget? \$130,000

How much have you raised to date? *Please specify if you have loaned or contributed any personal funds to your campaign and how much.* \$130,000

How many doors have you personally knocked to date? about 3,000

ABOUT THE ARTS

What is your perception of the current state of arts and culture in San José? (250 words)

I saw improvements in the downtown area. But a lot of neighborhoods are still left behind.

How would you define the role of arts and culture in San José's economy? (250 words)

Arts and culture contribute to the city's revenue because they attract tourism.

Were you familiar with SJAA before receiving this survey? Yes

If yes to the above, are you familiar with our current [policy priorities](#)? Yes

ABOUT OUR PRIORITIES

The following questions are directly related to SJAA's policy priorities. Your direct responses are appreciated!

Would you support a policy requiring large private developments to contribute funding and/or space and other resources to public arts and cultural programs in San José — similar to existing policies in Bay Area cities like Sunnyvale and Berkeley? Why or why not? *You can read an overview of SJAA's policy proposal [here](#).*

Yes. Public arts and cultural programs define our diversified community

Would you support reallocating the current 40% General Fund set aside from the Transient Occupancy Tax (aka TOT or Hotel Tax) to arts, culture, and tourism programs? Why or why not?

I support part of the TOT to arts, culture and tourism. This may require a citywide ballot measure. I am not sure about the percentage. I'd be happy to work with you in finding other opportunities

Would you support the creation of positions within city departments for artists in residence to coordinate with staff on community engagement and strategic planning — as other municipalities like [Los Angeles County](#) are already doing? Why or why not?

I would like to hear more about this proposal and learn from LA County. It may be a good countywide proposal. I visited Glendale City for their accomplishment on promoting public arts in the city. I am open to revise the qualification of Arts Commissioner.

OPEN FORUM

What are some other ideas you have for increasing City support for arts and culture?

Partner with local businesses and schools to have Art Festivals throughout the city on regular basis

What do you wish we had asked but didn't?

I have successfully fight for more fundings for State Art Council.